

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of Tomoo YAMAMOTO et al.

Application No.:

09/914,471

Filed:

August 29, 2001

For:

MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC STORAGE

DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 1773

Examiner: Holly C. Rickman

Docket No.: 29273/557

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). The paragraphs marked below are applicable. It is believed that no fees other than those indicated below are due, but authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees due, or to credit any overpayment, to deposit account 11-0600.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d), (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, (c) before the mailing date of a first Office

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Action on the merits in the present application, OR (d) before the mailing of a first office action after filing of a request for continued examination. No certification or fee is required.

X 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance, or any action that otherwise closes prosecution.							
a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).							
b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).							
Please debit Deposit Account No. <u>11-0600</u> in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached. 37 CFR §1.97(c)(2).							
☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby request(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Please debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.							
a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).							
b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).							
☐ 4. Relevance of the non-English language reference(s) is discussed in the present specification.							
☐ 5. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.							

□ appea	6. ars in the	A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language reference(s) Appendix attached hereto.
upon consi	Patent Ap issuance	The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this pplication is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to ited application and the art cited therein during examination of the present
Paten upon	t Applica	This application is one of a series of related applications, identified in the attached ich are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of those U.S. ations is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to ited applications and the art cited therein during the examination.
☐ appliodate u	9. cation No under 35	The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent o, filed, which is relied upon for an earlier filing U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).
☐ herete	10. o.	English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached
☐ includ		nce this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of U.S. references are not
		Respectfully submitted,
		John C. Altmiller Registration No. 25,951
V anti	on le Va	mil ion

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Art Unit

Application Number 09/914,471 August 29, 2001 Filing Date Tomoo YAMAMOTO et al. First Named Inventor 1773 Examiner Name Holly C. Rickman

(Use as many sheets as necessary) of 2 29273/557 Sheet 1 Attorney Docket Number

			U.S. PATE	ENT DO	CUME	NTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.1	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication D MM-DD-YY		Name of Palentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
	1	US-6,558,811 B1	05-06-200	3 Wong		Wong			
	2	US-6,421,195 B1	07-16-200	02					
	3	US- 6,255,006 B1	07-03-200	01					
	4	US- 6,150,015	11-21-2000 07-21-1992		Bertero et al.				
	5	US- 5,131,995				Suenaga et al.			
	6	US-							
		F	OREIGN PA	ATENT	DOCU	MENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY		Name of Patentee of Applicant of Cited Document		Т ⁶	
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Signature *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance

and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.